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Message Text

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ACTION SIG-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /004 W
----------106357 161236Z /50C
O 161145Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4942
INFO AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL NAPLES
AMCONSUL PALERMO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 4 ROME 14975

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASIG, AFSP, AFOP, APER
SUBJECT: STAFFING LEVELS

REF: STATE 204857

1. THE EMBASSY RECOGNIZES THAT IT MUST MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ADAPT TO AND TO ANTICIPATE DECREASING RESOURCE ALLOCATIONS AND WELCOMES THE INSPECTORS' COMMENTS AND EFFORTS TO ASSIST US IN THIS IMPORTANT TASK (REFTEL). WE WILL, HOWEVER, NEED THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN TWO AREAS IF WE ARE TO ENTER THE EIGHTIES AS A LEANER AND MORE EFFICIENT MISSION:

2. FIRST, RESOURCES: SOME OF THE INSPECTORS' RECOMMENDATIONS AND OUR OWN FORWARD PLANNING WILL INITIALLY REQUIRE ADDITIONAL FISCAL RESOURCES. FOR EXAMPLE, RECOMMENDATION 6A-4 MEANS WE WILL HAVE TO HAVE FUNDS TO RE-CONFIGURE OFFICE SPACE TO ENSURE MAXIMUM UTILIZATION OF THE REMAINING AMERICAN SECRETARIES; RECOMMENDATION 6D-1 IN OUR VIEW ANTICIPATES THE INSTALLATION OF HARDWARE TO REPLACE
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PERSONNEL BUT THE HARDWARE IS NOT SCHEDULED TO BE IN PLACE UNTIL 1980. WE CAN OBTAIN A SUBSTITUTE TO REPLACE OUR LOSS OF TOTAL MAN-HOURS, BUT IT WILL HAVE TO BE FUNDED. WE WILL PROVIDE OUR REQUIREMENTS AS SOON AS WE KNOW THEM.

3. SECONDLY, NEW DEPARTURES: WE SUPPORT THE DEPARTMENT'S

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EFFORTS TO FIND IMAGINATIVE AND MORE FLEXIBLE
APPROACHES TO THE CHALLENGES IT FACES AS SHOWN BY THE
DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION WITH REGARD TO
THE POSSIBLE WAIVER OF NON-IMMIGRANT VISA REQUIREMENTS
(STATE 199845). WE BELIEVE AND ASSUME THE DEPARTMENT
IS ALREADY CONSIDERING OTHER AREAS WHERE POSITIONS CAN
BE SAVED IF WE MOVE QUICKLY TO REVIEW AND REVISE OUR
POLICIES. THE EMBASSY SUBMITS, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THERE
ARE DOZENS OF LOCAL POSITIONS AROUND THE WORLD WHICH
COULD BE ABOLISHED THROUGH A REVISION OF THE POLICIES
CONCERNING THE USE OF TRAVEL AGENTS (6 FAM 128.2).

4. FOLLOWING ARE EMBASSY COMMENTS ON AMERICAN STAFFING
LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS MADE REFTEL:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

2-1. THE EMBASSY AGREES IN PRINCIPLE TO ABOLISH EITHER
POSITION 00-580, SPECIAL ASSISTANT, OR POSITION 00-572,
IRO GENERAL, DURING FY79, SUBJECT TO SUBSEQUENT
CONCURRENCY BY THE AMBASSADOR WHO IS OUT OF THE COUNTRY
UNTIL EARLY SEPTEMBER.

3-6. RE POSITION NO. 11573 (ASSISTANT POLMIL OFFICER), IN
VIEW OF THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF ITALIAN REAL ESTATE FOR US
MILITARY PRESENCE IN MEDITERRANEAN IN SUPPORT OF NATO SOUTHER
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FLANK, AND SIXTH FLEET ACTIVITIES IN ITALIAN PORTS AND WATERS,
AND THE CONSTANTLY GROWING VOLUME OF POLMIL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED,
INTER ALIA, WITH POLITICAL ATTACKS AGAINS US MILITARY PRESENCE,
THE EMBASSY CANNOT ACCEPT THE LOSS OF THIS POSITION. RE. POSITION
12575 (ASSISTANT LABOR ATTACHE), THE EMBASSY NOTES FOLLOWING
STATEMENT BY SECRETARIES VANCE AND MARSHALL IN STATE 180617: "THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE WITH COOPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
AND OTHER INTERESTED AGENCIES IS FOCUSING ON WAYS IN WHICH
POSTS AND THE LABOR ATTACHES CAN RESPOND MORE EFFECTIVELY TO THE
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES PRESENTED TO THE LABOR AND LABOR-
RELATED COMMUNITIES. IN ADDITION TO THE MEASURES UNDERWAY IN
WASHINGTON, WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE SUPPORT OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE
POSTS, FROM THE AMBASSADOR ON DOWN, IS ESSENTIAL TO THE SUCCESS
OF THE LABOR ATTACHE'S EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF OVERALL U.S. GOALS
AND OBJECTIVES." THE EMBASSY WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO GIVE THE
INCREASED EMPHASIS TO THE LABOR PROGRAM CALLED FOR BY THE ABOVE
TELEGRAM IF THE ASISTANT LABOR ATTACHE POSITION WERE
ELIMINATED. WITH REGARD TO THE POSSIBILITY OF COMBINING THE
ASSISTANT LABOR ATTACHE AND THE ASSISTANT POLMIL POSITIONS, THIS
WOULD NOT BE WORKABLE SINCE THE TWO OFFICES ARE PHYSICALLY
SEPARATE AND LOCATED ON DIFFERENT FLOORS. AS POINTED OUT IN THE
FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH, THE EMBASSY WILL BE STUDYING ALTERNATE

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LOCATIONS FOR THE COMBINED POLITICAL/POLITICAL-MILITARY/LABOR
SECTION. EVEN IF THE EMBASSY IS ABLE TO RELOCATE THE LABOR SECTION
CLOSER TO THE POLITICAL SECTION, THE TWO SECTIONS WILL STILL
PERFORCE BE ON DIFFERENT FLOORS, AND WE THUS DO NOT SEE AT THIS
TIME PRACTICALITY OF FUSING THESE POSITIONS.

3-7. THE EMBASSY DOES NOT AGREE TO ABOLISH ONE OF THE FIVE
AMERICAN SECRETARIAL POSITIONS. UNFORTUNATELY, A UNIFIED
POLITICAL SECTION WILL STILL BE LOCATED ON DIFFERENT FLOORS OF
THE EMBASSY. WE INTEND TO STUDY ALTERNATE LOCATION POSSIBILITIES
(INCLUDING THOSE SUGGESTED INFORMALLY BY THE INSPECTORS), BUT
THE DEPARTMENT KNOWS THAT TERMS OF OUR PURCHASE AGREEMENT OF THE
EMBASSY FORBID US TO ALTER NOT ONLY THE EXTERIOR BUT PORTIONS OF
THE INTERIOR. IF WE COME UP WITH A NEW SPACE PROPOSAL, WE WILL
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NEED ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES AND DRAWINGS AND SUBSEQUENT FBO FUNDING. IT

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ACTION SIG-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /004 W
----------106430 161244Z /50C
O 161145Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4943
INFO AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL NAPLES
AMCONSUL PALERMO

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IT IS NOT REALISTIC TO PLAN ON ABOLISHING A PRESENTLY
NEEDED SECRETARIAL POSITION BEFORE WE KNOW WHAT WE ARE GETTING
INTO. (EVEN WERE WE TO ABOLISH ASSISTANT LABATT (RECOMMENDATION

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3-6), WE WOULD STILL HAVE LABOR ATTACHE PLUS NEW POLITICAL OFFICER (POSITION NO. 10-593, SEE STATE 148380) LOCATED ON SEPARATE FLOOR WHERE THEY WILL OBVIOUSLY NEED ONE AMERICAN SECRETARY. REST OF COMBINED POLITICAL SECTION (SEVEN OFFICERS PLUS JOT, INCLUDING POLITICAL AND POL/MIL COUNSELORS) WILL BE COLOCATED WITH FOUR SECRETARIES.

6A-1. THE EMBASSY AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION 50-585, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, BUT AT THE BRIDGE TABLE WE WOULD BE ACCUSED OF HAVING MADE A PSYCHIC BID.

6A-4. THE EMBASSY DOES NOT AGREE TO ABOLISH POSITION NO. 50-431, SECRETARY. IT PROPOSES INSTEAD TO REPROGRAM THE POSITION TO CONSULATE GENERAL NAPLES TO REPLACE THE AMERICAN SECRETARIAL POSITION THERE WHICH THE EMBASSY PREVIOUSLY RECOMMENDED FOR ABOLISHMENT AND WHICH IS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING ABOLISHED. THE INSPECTORS DID NOT CONCUR WITH THAT RECOMMENDATION
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AND STATE THAT AN AMERICAN SECRETARIAL POSITION IS NEEDED IN NAPLES. WE ACCEPT THEIR EVALUATION.

6D-1. THE EMBASSY CAN AGREE WITH THE INSPECTORS' RECOMMENDATIONS TO ABOLISH TWO SUPPORT COMMUNICATIONS POSITIONS, BUT ONLY ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT WE OBTAIN IMPROVED OR ADDITIONAL CIRCUITRY TO MAKE UP FOR THE LOSS OF TOTAL MANHOURS. AT A MINIMUM WE MUST OBTAIN A SECOND ROME/BAX LEASED CIRCUIT.

8.4-3. A. AMCONGEN NAPLES DOES NOT AGREE TO ABOLISH POSITION 33-209, CONSULAR OFFICER, AND COMMENTS AS FOLLOWS: "THE INSPECTORS REASON THAT FOUR OFFICERS ON DUTY ARE SUFFICENT TO MAINTAIN HIGH QUALITY AND RESPONSIVE CONSULAR SERVICES AT PRESENT LEVELS OF DEMAND. I AGREE WITH THIS VIEW BUT AS UNDERSCORED NAPLES 1528, A COMPLEMENT OF FIVE POSITIONS IS REQUIRED TO INSURE THAT FOUR OFFICERS ARE ACTUALLY ON BOARD. THE RECORD OVER THE PAST YEAR CLEARLY BEARS THIS OUT. IN FACT DUE TO VACANCY GAPS, EMERGENCY LEAVE, HOME LEAVE, AND FSI LANGUAGE TRAINING, AT TIMES WE HAVE HAD TO OPERATE WITH ONLY THREE OFFICERS

"THE INSPECTORS POINT TO OUR PLAN TO ROTATE THE INCUMBENT OF THIS POSITION IN SUBSTANTIVE WORK THIS FALL. THIS IS TRUE, BUT THE DETAIL AT MOST WILL BE OF SHORT DURATION BECAUSE ANOTHER CONSULAR OFFICER WILL BE AWAY ON HOME LEAVE AND TRAINING FROM NOVEMBER 15 TO MARCH 15."

B. THE EMBASSY AGREES TO ABOLISH THE POSITION IF THE DEPARTMENT WILL COMMIT ITSELF TO INSURE FULL STAFFING FOR THE REMAINING FOUR POSITIONS.

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8.3-4. THE EMBASSY AND CONGEN MILAN DO NOT AGREE TO ABOLISH
POSITION 21-058, TRADE PROMOTION OFFICER. WE PROPOSE INSTEAD
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TO REPROGRAM THE POSITION TO PROVIDE AN AMERICAN SECRETARIAL
POSITION FOR MILAN AS RECOMMENDED BY THE INSPECTORS.

5. FOLLOWING ARE EMBASSY AND CONGENS' COMMENTS ON ITALIAN
STAFFING LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS:

4-4. THE EMBASSY AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION 200 UPON THE
RETIREMENT OF THE INCUMBENT IN FY 79.

5-4. THE EMBASSY AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION NO. 6 (ASSISTANT II
PASSPORT) BUT DOES NOT AGREE TO ABOLISH NO. 22 (ASSISTANT III
PASSPORT). WITH AN ITALO-AMERICAN POPULATION IN EXCESS OF 25
MILLION IN THE UNITED STATES, THE EMBASSY IN ROME HAS TO
ADJUDICATE A VERY LARGE NUMBER OF PASSPORT APPLICATIONS FROM
DUAL NATIONALS AND/OR FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS. MANY OF THESE
CASES REQUIRE ADVISORY OPINIONS CONCERNING LOSS OF CITIZENSHIP
FROM THE DEPARTMENT AND ARE ENORMOUSLY TIME-CONSUMING. INASMUCH
AS THE CONSULAR SECTION SCHEDULES THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THESE
CASES DURING THE NON-PEAK SEASON, THE INSPECTORS WERE NOT AWARE
OF THE HEAVY WORKLOAD ASSOCIATED WITH THIS TYPE OF CONSULAR
ACTIVITY. REDUCING THE PASSPORT AND CITIZENSHIP UNIT BY ONE-THIRD
OF ITS PRESENT COMPLEMENT OF LOCAL POSITIONS WOULD COMPROMISE
THE CONSULAR SECTION'S ABILITY TO PROVIDE "THE EFFICIENT, POLITE
AND ACCURATE SERVICE TO AMERICANS WHO TRAVEL ABROAD" CALLED FOR IN

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ACTION SIG-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 (ISO) W
----------074958 221559Z /61/42C
O 161145Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4944
INFO AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL NAPLES
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STATE 263040(77).

5-7. THE EMBASSY DOES NOT CONCUR IN THE ELIMINATION OF POSITION NO. 23 (CLERK III, VISA). THE NO-IMMIGRANT VISA DEMAND THROUGHOUT ITALY CONTINUES TO RISE (APPROXIMATELY 22 PERCENT INCREASE COUNTRYWIDE). IN ROME, TIME-CONSUMING WAIVER OF INELIGIBILITY CASES HAVE INCREASED OVER 100 PERCENT THIS YEAR (JANUARY THRU APRIL 1977-67; SAME PERIOD 1978-170). WE ANTICIPATE A CONTINUING INCREASE IN NIV WORK DUE, IN PART, TO REDUCED FARES FOR TRAVEL TO THE US. ALTHOUGH THE INSPECTORS BELIEVE A PIT POSITION COULD COMPENSATE FOR THE LOSS OF A VISA LOCAL PSOTION, THE EMBASSY NOTES THAT IT ALREADY HAS SUCH A PIT POSITION IN ADDITION TO THE SIX LOCAL POSITIONS. IN SUM, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES IT MUST RETAIN ITS PRESENT COMPLEMENT IN THE VISA UNIT IF IT IS TO COMPLY WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN STATE 263040(77).

6A-2. THE EMBASSY AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION 74, ASSISTANT CLERK, DURING FY 79.
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6C-6. THE EMBASSY AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION 177, BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST, AS SOON AS RECOMMENDATION 6C-4 IS IMPLEMENTED. WE HAVE ALREADY APPROACHED A LOCAL US TREASURY DEPOSITARY BANK AND WE PLAN TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATION 6C-4 IN FY 79.

6D-2. THE EMBASSY AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITIONS 40, TELEPHONE TECHNICIAN.
6D-3. THE EMBASSY AGREES TO EXPEDITE THE RETIREMENT ACTION FOR THE INCUMBENT OF POSITION 148, CLERK COMM, AND TO ABOLISH THE POSITION.
6E-1. THE EMBASSY AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION 129, FIREMAN, UPON THE RETIREMENT OF THE INCUMBENT DECEMBER 31, 1978.

6E-3. THE EMBASSY WILL COMPARE THE COST EFFECTIVENESS OF DIRECT HIRE EMPLOYEES VS. CONTRACT SERVICE, BUT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REPLY BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30. THE REMAINING TWO WEEKS IN AUGUST ARE HOLIDAY TIME FOR ROMANS AND FOR ROMAN BUSINESS FIRMS. ONLY THE MOST ESSENTIAL SERVICES ARE PROVIDED. TWO OFFICERS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION ARE ON HOME LEAVE UNTIL MID-

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SEPTEMBER, ONE OF THEM BEING OUR CONTRACTING OFFICER.
6E-4. THE EMBASSY WILL REPLY BY SEPTEMBER 30 FOR THE SAME
REASONS CITED IN THE PREVIOUS PARAGRAPH.
6E-5. THE EMBASSY AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION 140, CUSTODIAN, UPON
RETIREMENT OF THE INCUMBENT. THE EMBASSY DOES NOT AGREE TO
ABOLISH POSITION 233, CUSTODIAN. THE WORD "CUSTODIAN" IS
MISLEADING. THE ITALIAN WORD IS "PORTIERE" WHICH IS EQUIVALENT
TO A FRENCH CONCIERGE. WE CAN AGREE TO ABOLISH POSITION 140,
BECAUSE THE POSITION IS LOCATED IN A COMPOUND WHERE THERE ARE ONLY
5 RESIDENCES AND ACCESS INTO THE COMPOUND IS CONTROLLED BECAUSE
THE CHARGE LIVES THERE. POSITION 233 IS LOCATED IN A COMPOUND
WHERE WE HAVE 33 APARTMENTS; ACCESS IS NOT CONTROLLED.
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6E-8. THE EMBASSY AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION 90, ASSISTANT II/
GENERAL SERVICES UPON RETIREMENT OF THE INCUMBENT DECEMBER 31,
1978.

6E-10. THE EMBASSY WILL RESPOND BY SEPTEMBER 30 FOR THE REASONS
CITED IN 6E-3 ABOVE.
6E-15. THE EMBASSY AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION 145, TECHNICAN
IV/ SUPPLY. WE WILL NOT NEED TO MAKE A COST EFFECTIVE STUDY.

6E-16. THE EMBASSY AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION 76, LABORER,
UPON THE RETIREMENT OF THE INCUMBENT SEPTEMBER 30, 1978.

6E-19. THE EMBASSY WILL REVIEW THE NEED FOR POSITION 207 AND WILL
REPLY BY AUGUST 30. WE NEED THE TIME TO REVIEW OUR VEHICLE USAGE
RECORDS, CHAUFFEUR OVERTIME HOURS, AND DRIVERS SCHEDULES.

6E-21. THE EMBASSY DOES NOT AGREE TO ABOLISH POSITION 82,
ASSISTANT III/TRANSPORTATION, (REFTEL INCORRECTLY IDENTIFIES
POSITION NUMBER AS 83 WHICH IS A LOCAL ELECTRICIAN) EVEN IF WE
COULD IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATION 6E-20. WE DO NOT KNOW IF WE COULD
IMPLMENT RECOMMENDATION 6E-20. WE DO NOT KNOW IF THE INSPECTORS
SPOKE TO THE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES OF AMERICAN AIRLINES (TWA
AND PAN AM) AND WE WILL CERTAINLY DO SO. EVEN IF THEY DO AGREE
(AND WE DO NOT SEE WHY THEY SHOULD WANT TO COMMIT THEIR
RESOURCES; THEY CAN READ THE "FLY AMERICAN" LEGISLATION AS WELL
AS WE CAN) WE STILL HAVE LOCAL TRAVEL, INCLUDING RAIL,
AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS. IN JULY THE TRAVEL CLERK PROCESSED
158 INTERNATIONAL AIR RESERVATIONS, 65 DOMESTIC TRAVEL
RESERVATIONS, AND 89 HOTEL RESERVATIONS.

8.4-6. A. CONGEN NAPLES AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITIONS 61, ASSISTANT
II, CIT/PROT FILE UNIT, AND POSITION 70, ASSISTANT III,
NOTARIALS UNIT.

B. THE CONGEN NOTES THAT POSITION 85, ASSISTANT II, FEDERAL

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AGENCIES UNIT, IS 100 PERCENT REIMBURSEABLE FROM THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION AND THE AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE IN ROME BELIEVES IT SHOULD NOT BE CUT.

C. THE CONGEN INTENDS TO RELOCATE AND REALIGN

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /004 W
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O 161145Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4945
INFO AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL NAPLES
AMCONSUL PALERMO

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THE CONSULAR STAFF AND THIS WILL YIELD ONE ADDITIONAL POSITION, BUT NOT NECESSARILY EITHER POSITION 15, 16, OR 5 WHICH THE INSPECTORS RECOMMENDED.

8.4-9. A. CONGEN NAPLES AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION 37, MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT, AND 66, MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT.

B. THE CONGEN DOES NOT AGREE TO ABOLISH POSITION 86, ASSISTANT III. THE INCUMBENT IS THE POST'S SOLE PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST AND ALSO HANDLES BUILDING MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES. THE CONGEN BUILDING IS NEARLY 30 YEARS OLD AND REQUIRES CONTINUOUS ATTENTION.

C. INCUMBENTS OF POSITION 35, FOREMAN II, AND POSITIGY 36,

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MAINTENANCE ARE INTIMATELY FAMILIAR WITH THE BUILDING. FOR SECURITY REASONS, THE CONGEN BELIEVES IT MOST UNWISE TO SUBSTITUTE OUTSIDE CONTRACTURAL SERVICES. THE CONGEN NOTES THAT HIS RESIDENCE IS IN THE SAME BUILDING WHICH GIVES ADDED IMPORTANCE TO THE SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS.

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8.5-4. A.CONGEN PALERMO AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION 20.

B. CONGEN PALERMO AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION 26 UPON THE RETIREMENT OF THE INCUMBENT ON DECEMBER 31, 1979.

C. CONGEN PALERMO AGREES TO ABOLISH POSITION 44, BUT DOES NOT AGREE TO ABOLISH POSITION 33. THE CONGEN COMMENTS AS FOLLOWS: "THE WORK IN THESE TWO UNITS COULD BE SATISFACTORILY PERFORMED WITH LOSS OF ONE OF THE TWO POSITIONS. OF TWO, WE WOULD PLAN ABOLISH POSITION 44 (SCS). THOUGH WE ADMIT VOLUME OF PASSPORT/ CITIZENSHIP WORK MAY NOT SEEM QUANTITATIVELY HIGH, SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF 340(D), DUAL-CITIZENSHIP AND OTHER COMPLICATED CITIZEN-SHIP DETERMINATIONS REQUIRE LENGTHIER INTERVIEW AND REPORTING TIME THAN MERE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS MIGHT SUGGEST. IT SHOULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED THAT LARGE NUMBER OF OUR CITIZENSHIP APPLICANTS HAVE LITTLE OR NO COMMAND OF ENGLISH AND FREQUENTLY REQUIRE TIME-CONSUMING ASSISTANCE IN COMPLETING FORMS, ETC. SIMILARLY, THOUGH SCS MAY NOT REQUIRE TWO FULL-TIME POSITIONS, WE DOUBT THAT EFFECTIVE SERVICES CAN BE MAINTAINED AT PROPER LEVELS--PARTICULARLY WITH LARGE AMOUNT OF NECESSITY "OUT-OF-OFFICE" TIME--WITH ONLY ONE POSITION EVEN THOUGH SOME BACK-UP ASSISTANCE IS ALREADY BEING RECEIVED FROM THE NOTARIAL ASSISTANT/CASHIER. WE WOULD POINT OUT IN THIS REGARD THAT NOTARIAL ASSISTANT/CASHIER IS CURRENTLY SPENDING CA. 25 PERCENT OF HIS TIME ON SCS CORRESPONDENCE, A FACTOR WHICH INSPECTORS PERHAPS DID NOT CONSIDER. IN SUM, WE WOULD PREFER TO ABLISH POSITION NO. 44 AND RETAIN POSITION 33 SPLITTING RESPONSIBILITIES OF INCUMBENT BETWEEN SCS AND CITIZENSHIP WORK."

D. CONGEN PALERMO DOES NOT AGREE TO ABOLISH POSITION 48. THE CONGEN COMMENTS AS FOLLOWS: "WE WOULD NOTE OBSERVATION BY FORMER CHIEF, FEDERAL AGENCIES SERVICES, ROME THAT PALERMO FBU STAFFING (THREE POSITIONS) WAS RIGHT FOR THE WORKLOAD. WE ALSO NOTE THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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INSPECTORS' IMPRESSIONS OF FBU WORKLOAD CAME AT SUMMER LOW-POINT WHICH NOT ACCURATELY REFLECTIVE OF YEAR ROUND BURDEN. FURTHERMORE TOTALIZATION AGREEMENT WILL ADD AS YET UNQUANTIFIABLE ADDITIONAL

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BURDEN. POSITION 48 ALSO PROVIDES NEEDED BACK UP FOR NOTARIAL ASSISTANT/CASHIER DURING PEAK WORK PERIODS NEEDED LEAVE, ETC."

8.5-9. THE CONGEN WILL PREPARE A COST-EFFECTIVE STUDY, BUT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REPLY BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30 FOR THE SAME REASONS CITED BY THE EMBASSY ABOVE.

8.5-10. CONGEN PALERMO DOES NOT AGREE TO ABOLISH POSITION 13 OR POSITION 8. THE CONGEN COMMENTS AS FOLLOWS: "THE POST CANNOT FUNCTION WITHOUT C AND R SPECIALIST (POSITION 8) GIVEN HIGH VOLUME OF MESSAGE TRAFFIC AND FACT THAT INCUMBENT ALSO BEARS PRIME RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPPLY ORDERING/INVENTORY, ETC. SIMILARLY, ABSORPTION BY PERSONNEL ASSISTANT OF ALL OF DUTIES OF ADMIN ASSISTANT/SECRETARY (POSITION 13) WOULD SERIOUSLY REDUCE PERSONNEL ASSISTANT'S CAPACITY TO RENDER ASSISTANCE TO FOREIGN SERVICE PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES TO WHICH DEPARTMENT (AND INSPECTORS FOR THAT MATTER) HAVE RIGHTFULLY GIVEN SUCH HIGH PRIORITY. ADMIN ASSISTANT/SECRETARY IS ALSO ONE OF ONLY THREE QUALIFIED ENGLISH-LANGUAGE SECRETARIES AT POST.THE LOSS, THEREFORE, WOULD BE FELT IN OTHER OFFICES FOR WHICH SHE OCCASIONALLY PERFORMS THESE SERVICES."

6. THE EMBASSY CONCURS IN THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY CONGENS NAPLES AND PALERMO CONCERNING LOCAL EMPLOYEES. HOLMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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From: ROME
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Reference: 78 STATE 204857
Retention: 0
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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1722189
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STAFFING LEVELS
TAGS: ASIG, AFSP, AFOP, APER
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/66f78662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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